GEOLOGY 1930

App. F. IX-4.

Previous References

193 0

File No. 3-30

Serial Nos. 50, 53, 54, 55, 68, 6
90, 95, 96, 97, 134

Later References

Geol 9-31 (94, 98, 99, 107, 108, 118)

(11)

General and Revenue Secretariat.

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leven

Part B for 1930-32

Recognition of heroism displayed by certain men during the recent fire

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General and Revenue Secretariat | Govt. File No. | of 193

Serial No. 50

From The Chief Inspector of Mines Memo No. 125[illegible] d. 24.1.31 & 12761 d. 27.1.31. Demands for information a copy of his letter No. 1254 d. 24.1.31 confirming his telephone messages addressed to the Private Govt to the Diwan of Mysore on the above dates of 25th & 24th Jany 1931 reporting the occurrence of a very heavy rockburst underground in Oorgaum Mine resulting in the death of 11 persons (coolies) and stating that rescue operations are in progress under extreme by trying conditions, that out of 56 persons sent up to hospital with mainly the injuries of only 8 persons have been declared serious and the rest trivial and that a detailed report will be submitted to Govt after inspecting the affected area adding that out of the 8 seriously injured one died of head injuries following the injuries.

Diw Govt's orders on letter d. 26.1.31: ——

"For perusal. Detailed report may be awaited."

Approved by 2nd Member on 27th and by the Diwan on 29th Jany 1931. intimating

Noted with a draft to the Resident

Mr. [illegible] Spl: for approval

30.1.31. [illegible]

Ca 31/1

Done today

Bn

[illegible]

Ca

To The Govt to the Hon'ble the Resident No. Pol. 769 d. 2.2.31. Informs him of the occurrence of the above accident & states that a detailed report will be forwarded for his info on its receipt

5836
6219

Govt. File No. 3 of 1930

General and Revenue Secretariat

From the Chief Inspector of Mines. No. 1415 d. 12.2.31. Submits, for the information & orders of Govt, the detailed report of the above accident together with two spare copies of the same.

Submd for orders with a draft G.O. recording & a draft to the Residency forwarding a copy of the G.O. & a copy of the Report.

MAV 16/2 Please type as revised.

14/17

Typed draft submd
MAV:KO
11.3.31. Secy

Sec. for approval
CA 14/3

WH

The Chief Inspector of Mines. No. D. 9411 d. 6.4.31. 6.8
subs the above report with certain observations.

To the Secy to the Hon'ble the Resident in Mby 6.9
forwards a copy of the detailed report of the above accident together with the plan & a copy of the G.O.

General and Revenue Secretariat. Genl File No. of 1930

Serial No.

APR. 1931 No. 1009

Drafts issued and file resubmitted with a draft final note
MRM (Secy dept) Ca 9/4
8.4.31.
9

Please send thro the Secy
mcg
10/4/31.

Please type the draft Fin Note as discussed
11/4/31
Ca 11/4

Send with a typed d. f. n.
MRM (Keeys) Ca 14/4 for appl
13.4.31.
(1st Member)
14/4/31
Ca 15/4
mcg
16/4/31

Sent with SN
17/4/31
Ca 17/4

Send with S.N.
MRM Qaiser
20.4.31.
21/4/31

WD 02553—50,000—GPB—8-7 30

Final Note by the First Member of Council.

Subject:—

Occurrence of a very heavy rockburst in the Oorgaum Mine, Kolar Gold Field, on 23rd January 1931.

I beg to report for the information of His Highness that a very heavy rockburst occurred ~~underground~~ in the Oorgaum Mine, Kolar Gold Fields, on 23rd January 1931 resulting in the death of twelve coolies in all and injuries to a number of others.

The Chief Inspector of Mines made preliminary reports of the occurrence on the 24th and 27th January and submitted his detailed report after full investigation on the 12th February 1931.

The ascertained facts are:

There was a heavy rockburst followed by a series of shocks of less intensity between 11.26 and 11.32 a.m. on 23rd January 1931 in the Oorgaum Mine. The "quake" was so violent that it was felt in the surrounding country for a distance of 7 miles and all the buildings were severely shaken. Investigation disclosed that the stoping area between the 62nd and 70th levels between Oakley's (No.2) Vertical and Bullen's Incline Shafts had been affected; and as 272 persons were working in the affected area at the time, rescue operations were immediately set on foot; the dead and the injured were brought to the surface and the latter were sent to the Company's Hospital for treatment as expeditiously as possible in motor ambulances. The total casualties were 12 dead (of whom 10 were killed instantaneously and 2 died later in the Hospital) and 55 injured. The largest number of deaths, viz., 10, occurred in the 67th level which, along with the 68th level, suffered most damage.

The report shows that the disturbed area is situated between two small dykes on the north and a fault plane on the south

and

and that owing to these defects in the reef the excavations (finished stopes) here had been either systematically supported by granite walls or filled with waste rock, and that though the stopes where these walls had been built up, were not affected, except for some small falls of ground between the supports, the levels had been shattered owing to the disruption of the hanging walls and the footwalls between the supports. The Chief Inspector says that, in order to minimise the effects of these rockbursts, it has been decided to strip the backs of the levels and secure them before starting stoping operations and to fit the levels with suitable heavy timber sets wherever required, in addition to the usual method of supporting them with pigstyes and coverings. He adds that this heavy type of rockbursts known as "Quakes" is peculiar to the Kolar Gold Field and is attributable to the super-incumbent pressures incidental to deep mining. The accident was, in the above circumstances, unavoidable, and it occurred inspite of all possible precautions taken to render the working places safe. While the heavy casualties caused by this accident are to be deeply deplored, it must be mentioned that the rescue parties showed commendable courage in working under trying and hazardous conditions and that had it not been for their efforts, the loss of life might have been greater.

M N Venkatarama Rau

Camp Bhadravati,)
16th April 1931.)

MEMBER OF COUNCIL.

Submitted to His Highness.

I submit herewith a Final Note by the First *Member of Council on the subject of* the occurrance of a very heavy rock-burst in the Ooregum Mine, Kolar Gold Fields, on 23rd January 1931 *for His Highness' gracious* ~~approval~~ perusal.

Bangalore.
21st April 1931.

Mirza M. Ismail
Dewan.

Record of Cases submitted for the Orders of His Highness the Maharaja.

525

Subject.

Occurrence of a very heavy rock-burst in the Ooregum Mine on 23rd January 1931.

Order.

KRW

27/4/31

General and Revenue
Secretariat

C419

Occurrence of a very heavy rock-burst in the Goregaon Mine on 23rd January 1931

(*)

31. All urgent or confidential files returned with His Highness' orders may in the absence of instructions or indications to the contrary, be ordinarily circulated to the Members of Council for perusal after the issue of orders.

33. The Secretaries concerned should see that orders in the cases referred to above are issued at once and that the files are returned immediately after to the Chief Secretary for circulation to the Members.

34. In all other cases, the files will first be circulated to the members of Council at Headquarters and then sent to the Secretariat concerned for the issue of orders.

Circulated to Members of Council for perusal of His Highness' orders before/after issue of orders. (*Vide* Rules 31, 33 and 34 of the Subsidiary Rules for the conduct of business of Council in the Manual of Council Rules and Procedure.) with Private Secretary's Do. No. C. 45 dated 27/4/31.

Chief Secretary to Government.

Through the Secretary to Government,

Dev Department.

29/4/31.

1408
29/4

FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL. Vide note dated 30th April 1931

9547
1/5

SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL. 1/5/31

7766
1/5

THIRD MEMBER OF COUNCIL. 1/5/31

General and Revenue Secretariat. | File No. of 192

Serial No.

Reference:- D.O letter No. C.45 dated 27th April 1931 from the Private Secretary to His Highness to the Dewan.

The Chief Inspector of Mines sends three reports in regard to such occurrences: 1) a telephone report as soon as an accident occurs; 2) a report as soon as the full facts of the occurren are known; and, (3) a final report after the completion of investigation into an occurrence. The final report is generally made long after the occurrence. The telephone message only reports the occurrence and gives no particulars. The second report which mentions facts as far as ascertained, may be submitted to His Highness for information. All cases in which any death occurs may be thus reported and not others.

2. The second report received in regard to the last rock-burst in the Mysore Mine may be put up for submission to His Highness.

3. As regards recognition of the heroism of the men who did the rescue work, a report may be called for from the Chief Inspector of Mines in consultation with the authorities of the Mines.

4. A draft reply to the Private Secretary's letter may be put up and submitted to Dewan.

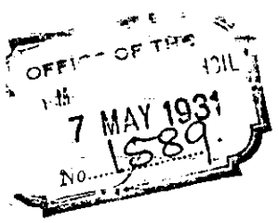
Simple
30/4/31

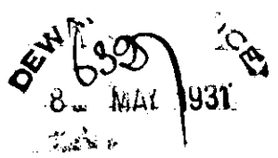
To Gen Secy with Compts
30/4/31

D 01714—GPB—30,000—18-4-28

General and Revenue Secretariat — File No. 3 of 1930

Serial No.





Dft: for approval
Ca 9/5
Gen. Secy

RG 5/5731
Minister
Dewan

Draft may be submitted to Dewan
Please take very early action
re point at A in my note
dated 30-4-31
RB 7-5-31

RG 7/5
5731 Dewan
Ca 8/5

9/5/31
5731

Issue
Ca 11/5.

To the Private Secy to H.H. the Maharaja. D.O. No. 2440 d. 13.5.31. States that 3 reports are usually received in all cases of accidents from the Chief Inspector & that as regards the recognition of the services of the rescue party the Chief Inspector will be consulted & a further report made in the matter & also sends the 2nd report re: accident in Mysore Mine on 21st & 22nd April 1931.

Yest File No. of 1930.

Draft issued from the Diwan's office & filed back on 15.5.31.

A draft to the Chief Inspector of Mines calling for the information required in para 3 of the Member's Note d. 30.4.31 is dated herewith.

Sep X

MR: Yest
6.5.31.

GENERAL SECRETARY. 18 MAY 1931 No.

Yest
RG
18/5/31

To the Chief Inspector of Mines in Mysore. 90
No. D. 10420 d. 18.5.31. Enquiries whether it is practicable to show some recognition of the conduct of the men who, at great risk to their own lives, went in to rescue the bodies who were buried in the debris either through a recommendation to the Royal Humane Society or in some more direct way.

From the Private Secy to H.H. D.O. No. 4.63 d. 15.5.31. Acknowledges the Diwan's D.O. of 13th May 1931 and states that His Highness approves of his proposal to send Him in all cases of accident at the K.G.F. involving loss of life the accompanied report made as soon as the facts are known and also that He would also like to have a copy of the telephone report in cases in which loss of life occurs.

General and Revenue Secretariat

Jud File No. 3 of 193

Serial No.	
	Orders of the 1st Member (Dewan in charge) d. 17.5.31 on the Private Secy's D.O. ——
Penal.	"Please note and arrange for sending these reports."
" 2.	" —— Do —— "
3.	"The Chief Inspector's report to be obtained (Yesterday's telephone reports) early"

As regards 1 & 2, it is for orders whether the Chief Inspector may be addressed in the matter and requested to send copies of the two reports to the Private Secy to H.H. simultaneously when he sends them to this office so as to avoid delay in transmission.

As regards 3 the Chief Inspector has been written to (yesterday) to send the Punthem report in question immediately for submission to H.H.

Yours for orders.

19.5.31.

A. This may perhaps be done I think the reports should be sent by the Post. Ce 19/5

1st Member

19/5/31

Ce 19/5

A. Yes. We should have these reports & not. C.J. The telephone messages should be sent the same day they are received here

19/5/31

20/5/31

Ce 20/5

7611
7705

Yest. File No. 3 of 1930.

From the Chief Inspector of Mines, Oongaunr. / D.O. No. 2083 d. 20.5.31. States that it is extreme difficult to select individuals for special recognition as a large number of gangs working quick shifts are invariably employed on such work, that individuals showing initiative or outstanding abilities on such occasions are invariably rewarded by the Mining Authorities, and that it is desirable to ascertain the opinion of Messrs John Taylor & Sons' Committee in the matter & requests permission ~~of~~ to do so.

Submitted with respect to 1st Member's orders on page 11 (para 3) & page 14 of the notes.

This report was called for for order to His Highness in obedience to His Highness' desire to be informed whether it is practicable to recognise the services of the rescue party in some tangible way.

The Chief Inspector who has expressed his personal views above requests permission to consult Messrs John Taylor & Sons Committee in the matter.

Submitted for orders as to ~~whether this may be done before submitting the file to His Highness.~~

MM. KD
25.5.31

a. May be approved
Secy

(1st Member)

OFFICE OF THE
FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL
MAY 1931
No. 1992

7705
2136

App. F. III—2]

General and Revenue Secretariat — Govt File No. 3 of 1930-31.

Serial No.	
	Draft d.o. to the Chief Inspector ended".
	par. 11
	1.6.31.
	Issue
	1.6.31
97	To the Chief Inspector of Mines, Coimbatore, No. D.-1086 d. 5.6.31. States that Messrs. John Taylor & Sons' Committee may be consulted as proposed re: recognition of the future conduct of persons in mines connected with intervening accounts
	Yes A par 9.6.31.
	GEN. & REV. SECRETARIAT. 17 JUNE 1931 DEVELOPMENT BRANCH.
134	From the Chief Inspector of Mines No. 901 d. 5.12.31. Forwards for information a copy of letter d. 2.12.31 received from the Executive Members, Messrs. John Taylor & Sons' Committee stating that the Committee are of opinion that the existing practice of giving monetary rewards to people showing initiative & outstanding ability is the best course to be adopted in such cases & that it is not advisable to draw invidious distinctions between individuals or gangs. The Chief Inspector states that the Executive Members the Committee have expressed the same view as he did in his D.O. letter of 20th May 1931 (Pl. 76). Refer Member's orders on page 11 of notes (para 143)

7705
216

yest File No. 3 of 1930.

Yesterday for orders as to whether the views of the Executive Committee and those of the Chief Inspector of Mines may be communicated to the Private Secy to His Highness for the information of His Highness as requested by the former in his D.O. of 27th April 1931.

MN. Asst
14.12.31.

A Copy of letter dt 2.12.31 from the Executive Member, Messrs John Taylor & Sons' Committee, Organ to the Ch. Insp. of Mines regarding enclosure to the Ch. Insp's letter of the 5th Instt may perhaps be forwarded to the Pte Secy to HH. With reference to para 3 of his D.O. letter of the 27th April 31.

Dev. Secy)
1st member)

15/12/31

MN
16/12

D 7 N may be [illegible]
Secy

12/3

MN
24/12
24/12

Yesterday with a d.f.n.:
MN. Asst
22.12.31.

Put up clean copy as revised for approval.

24/12/31

Typed draft sorted
MN
24.12.31.
Dev. Secy)

For approval

24/12/31

MN
24/12
24/12

Put up S.N.
MN
6/1
6/1

2nd member) 7.N. Signed by member
6/1/32

2136

16

General and Revenue Secretariat

Geol. File No. 3 of 1930.

[App. F. III—2

Serial No.

Yrded with D. M.
DRK.
6.1.32
Dev. Secy)
Dewan

DEWAN'S OFFICE.
7 JAN. 1932

6/1/32

MS
6/1/32

10-1-32

Final Note by the Second Member of Council.

Subject:—

Recognition of the heroism of the rescue party during the heavy rock-burst in the Oorgaum Mine, Kolar Gold Fields on 23rd January 1931.

In continuation of Mr. Krishna Rao's Final Note dated 16th April 1931 regarding the occurrence of a very heavy rock-burst in the Oorgaum Mine, Kolar Gold Fields, on 23rd ~~June~~ January 1931 and with reference to para 3 of Sir Charles Todhunter's D.O. letter No. 45 dated 27th April 1931 to the Dewan, I beg to submit for the information of His Highness that a report was called for from the Chief Inspector of Mines regarding the practicability of giving some recognition of the heroic conduct of the men who went in at great risk to their own lives to rescue the coolies who had been buried in the debris. The Chief Inspector of Mines in his D.O. letter No. 2083 dated 20th May 1931 replied saying that it was extremely difficult to select individuals for special recognition as a large number of gangs working quick shifts are invariably employed on such work and added that individuals showing initiative or exhibiting outstanding abilities on such occasions are invariably rewarded (generally in cash) by the Mining authorities. Messrs John Taylor & Sons' Committee were also consulted by him in the matter with the permission of Government. The Executive Member, Messrs John Taylor & Sons' Committee, Oorgaum, in his letter dated 2nd December 1931 to the Chief Inspector, has stated that the Committee are of opinion that the existing practice of the Mining Companies of giving monetary rewards to all those who deserve them including individuals showing initiative and outstanding ability on such occasions does not require to be departed from and that it is not advisable to draw invidious and unfair distinctions between individuals or gangs. The letters received from the Chief Inspector of Mines and the Executive Member

of

of Messrs John Taylor & Sons' Committee on the subject are submitted herewith for the gracious perusal of His Highness.

K Matthan

Bangalore,)
5th January 1931.) MEMBER OF COUNCIL.

Submitted to His Highness.

I submit herewith a Final Note by the Second Member of Council on the subject of the recognition of the heroism of the rescue party during the heavy rock-burst in the Ooregum Mine, Kolar Gold Fields, on 23rd January 1931 for His Highness' gracious perusal.

Mirza M. Ismail
Dewan.

Bangalore,
7th January 1932.
10th

Record of Cases submitted for the Orders of His Highness the Maharaja.

Subject.

Recognition of the heroism of the rescue party during the heavy rock-burst in the Oorgaum Mine, Kolar Gold Fields, on 23rd January 1931.

184

Order.

13/1/32

General and Revenue Secretariat

2115
Year 3-30.

Recognition of the heroism of the rescue party during the heavy rock-burst in the Oorgaum Mine, K.G.F. on 23rd Jan! 1931.

(*)

31. All urgent or confidential files returned with His Highness' orders may in the absence of instructions or indications to the contrary, be ordinarily circulated to the Members of Council for perusal after the issue of orders.

33. The Secretaries concerned should see that orders in the cases referred to above are issued at once and that the files are returned immediately after to the Chief Secretary for circulation to the Members.

34. In all other cases, the files will first be circulated to the members of Council at Headquarters and then sent to the Secretariat concerned for the issue of orders.

Circulated to Members of Council for perusal of His Highness' orders before/after issue of orders.* (*Vide* Rules 31, 33 and 34 of the Subsidiary Rules for the conduct of business of Council in the Manual of Council Rules and Procedure.)

Chief Secretary to Government.

Through the Secretary to Government,

DW
.....Department. MK 18/1.

4182/19.1

FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL. 19.1.32

5758/18/1

SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL. 18/1/32

~~THIRD MEMBER OF COUNCIL.~~

Dear Secy with Comps

NOTE.—Contn. sheet.

B. MK 26.1.32

GEN. & REV. SECRETARIAT. 27 JAN. 1932 DEVELOPMENT BRANCH.

Nil 19/1/32

MK 20/1/32

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE.

Telegraphic Address:—
"MINESPECTOR"

DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND EXPLOSIVES.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INSPECTOR OF MINES IN MYSORE.

No. 1254.
Encl:—

Dated Oorgaum, 24th January 193 1.
(S. India).

FROM

C. E. SURYANARAYANA RAU, Esq., Mem. A.I.M.E., &c.,
Chief Inspector of Mines in Mysore.

To

T. Singaravelu Mudaliar, Esq., B.A., B.L.,
Private Secretary to the Dewan of Mysore,
BANGALORE.

Sir,

I have the honour to confirm the following telephone messages sent to you yesterday and today:-

"Very heavy rockburst occurred underground,
"Oooregum Mine today affecting many levels.
"Dear heavy casualty in area affected. Four
"bodies recovered dead so far, one died in
"hospital. Three persons missing, probably
"dead, and seven seriously injured. Rescue
"operations in progress. Will report details
"later. - Minespector".

"In continuation of my telephone message of
"yesterday I regret to report that the total
"number of persons killed by the rockburst in
"Oooregum Mine is ten. One person is still
"missing. Rescue operations continue. I am
"going underground now and will report details
"later. - Minespector."

The missing person has since been located and his body was brought up at 2-45 p.m. today. This brings the total number of fatalities to eleven.

I went underground this morning and inspected some of the badly affected levels from the 62nd level to 70th level, N. of Oakley's No. 2 Vertical Shaft. Rescue operations were being conducted under extremely trying conditions. The following is

the

the list of persons killed in this rockburst:-

1. V. Perumal, timber cooly.
2. C. Thimmiah, timber mestri.
3. P. Shunmugam, timber cooly.
4. V. Muniappa, handjumper cooly.
5. P. Veloo, handjumper cooly.
6. V. Palayam, stuff cooly.
7. Muniswami, handjumper cooly.
8. Pillappa, handjumper cooly.
9. K. Mohideen Kutty, contractor.
10. Parasuraman, timber cooly

and 11. Varadan, stuff cooly.

Besides these, 56 persons were sent up to Hospital with wounds big and small; of these the injuries of 8 persons only have been declared 'serious', the rest are 'trivial'

The affected area will be inspected as soon as circumstances permit and a detailed report will be submitted to Government in due course.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Sd/- C. E. Suryanarayana Rau,
CHIEF INSPECTOR OF MINES
IN MYSORE.

D.S.R.

No. 1255.

Dated Oorgaum, 24th January 1931.

Copy forwarded, with compliments, to the Secretary to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Development Departments, Bangalore, for information.

CHIEF INSPECTOR OF MINES
IN MYSORE.

D.S.R.

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE.

Gen. 3-30-5-3

DEWAN'S OFFICE (P23) 30 JAN. 1931

Telegraphic Address :—
"MINESPECTOR"

OFFICE OF THE THE COUNCIL 28 JAN. 1931 # 4920

No. 1275
Encl :—

DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND EXPLOSIVES.
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INSPECTOR OF MINES IN MYSORE.

Dated Oorgaum, 27th January *193* 1.
(S. India).

FROM

C. E. SURYANARAYANA RAU, ESQ., Mem. A.I.M.E., &c.,
Chief Inspector of Mines in Mysore.

To

T. Singaravelu Mudaliar, Esq., B.A., B.L.,
Private Secretary to the Dewan of Mysore,
B A N G A L O R E.

Sir,

In continuation of this office letter No.1254 dated 24th instant confirming the telephone messages of the 23rd and 24th instant regarding rockburst in Ooregum Mine, I regret to inform you that timber cooly Swaminathan, one of the 8 persons seriously injured - wounds forehead and left knee, contused left leg, dorsum of foot and abrasions back - died in hospital at 11 p.m. yesterday due to embolism and heart failure following the injuries.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Sd/- C. E. Suryanarayana Rau,
CHIEF INSPECTOR OF MINES
IN MYSORE.

No. S-911
28-1-31
D.S.R.

No. 1276. Dated Oorgaum, 27th January 1931.

Copy forwarded, with compliments, to the Secretary to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Development Departments, Bangalore, for information in continuation of this office Memo No.1255 dated 24th instant.

For perusal
Bz.
28/1
D.S.R.

C E Suryanarayana Rau
CHIEF INSPECTOR OF MINES
IN MYSORE.

Dewan

Rel. 31/1.

31-1-31
31/1

Appendix F G—1

SUBJECT.....

.....

.....

Section Genl.

File No. 9—30.

Serial No. 54

No. Pol. 769

Diary No. of letter replied to.....5836.....

General and Revenue Secretariat

( )

the *193*

Date of issue.....2/2/31.....

gned by.....Secy B. N.....

To

The Secy to the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore.

Sir,

I am directed to inform you that the Chief Inspector of Mines reports that a very heavy ~~underground~~ underground rockburst occurred in the Oorgaum Mines, K. G. F. on the 23rd & 24th instants affecting many levels and resulting in the death of eleven persons (coolies) ~~Thursday~~ and that rescue operations are in progress. He further states that ~~besides this~~,

2. A detailed report of the accident will be ~~asked~~ demanded for your

List of enclosures.....

Copied by.....

Examined by.....

1 56 persons were sent to Hospital with injuries have been wounds big & small and that of these, the injuries of only 8 persons have been declared serious and the rest trivial.

[over

information as soon as ~~the same~~ it is
is received from the Chief Inspector.

I have etc.,

By. of

ee 31/1 Dun Yeoy to Gant

Geol 3-30-53-1 (6)

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE.

b219

Telegraphic Address:—
"MINESPECTOR"

DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND EXPLOSIVES.
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INSPECTOR OF MINES IN MYSORE.

No. 1415
Encl:— 3.

Dated Oorgaum, 12th February *193* 1.
(S. India).

FROM

C. E. SURYANARAYANA RAU, ESQ., Mem. A.I.M.E., &C.,
Chief Inspector of Mines in Mysore.

To

B. Narayanaswami Iyengar, Esq., B.A., B.L.,
Secretary to the Government of His Highness
the Maharaja of Mysore, Development Departments,
BANGALORE.

Sir,

ACCIDENT NO.14 of 1931.

In continuation of this office memo No.1276 dated 27th January 1931 forwarding copy of letter No.1275 of the same date addressed to the Private Secretary to the Dewan of Mysore regarding the above accident which occurred in the Ooregum Mine on 23-1-1931, I have the honour to submit, herewith, for information and orders of Government, the detailed report in this connection together with 2 spare copies of same.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

C E Suryanarayana Rau

CHIEF INSPECTOR OF MINES

IN MYSORE.

M.S.

D.M.E

SCHEDULE.

Accident No.14.
Year 1931.

Name and Situation of Mine.- OOREGUM GOLD MINE.

Date 23-1-1931

Time 11-25

Class 11.

Place
(a) Stope below the 66th level N., Oakley's Section.
(b) Drive, 67th level N., Oakley's Section
(c) Stope below the 68th level N.Oakley's Secn.
(d) Drive, 67th level N.Oakley's No.2 Vertical Shaft.
(e) Drive, 70th level N., Auxiliary Shaft.
(f) Stope below the 67th level N., Oakley's No.2 Vertical Shaft.
(g) Drive, 68th level S., Bullen's Incline Shaft.
(h) Drive, 67th level S., Bullen's Incline Shaft.
(i) Drive, 68th level N., Auxiliary Shaft.
(j) Drive, 63rd level N. of Oakley's No.2 Vertical Shaft.

Killed or injured.		Hrs worked	Age	Occupation	Nature of injury.
12. O.Muniappa	(a)	4 5/12	35	Handjumper cooly	Deep wounds of scalp, both knees and right side of hip.
O.Muniswami	(a)	do.	25	do.	Fracture of skull, left humerus, deep wound of left foot & abrasions all over the body.
C.Perumal alias Thimmiah	(b)	do.	30	Timber mestri M.9712 B.6842	Fracture of skull, right temple, right ear torn & fracture of spine.
Pillappa	(a)	do.	45	Handjumper cooly	Penetrating wound of left thigh, muscles cut, wound of right temple, both ears torn, wounds of scalp and multiple injuries all over the body. F.
V. Perumal ..	(b)	do.	36	Timber cooly	Deep wound of scalp, cranium exposed, multiple injuries all over the body. F.
T. Varadan ..	(b)	do.	40	Stuff cooly	Multiple injuries to head & body. F.
V. Palayam ..	(b)	do.	22	do.	Fracture of skull, nose torn, penetrating wound of lower 3rd of left leg and multiple injuries all over the body. F.
E. Veloo ..	(c)	do.	35	Handjumper cooly	Fracture of skull & penetrating wound of left knee. F.
K. Mohideen Kutty	(d)	do.	50	Contractor. M.46.	Fracture of skull, brain exposed. F.
C. Parasuraman	(d)	do.	35	Timber cooly	Right leg completely crushed & multiple injuries all over the body. F
P. Shunmugam.. and B. Swaminathan	(e) (b)	do.	25 30	Timber cooly Timber cooly	Right thigh fractured, wound of left cheek & multiple injuries all over the body. Wound of forehead, left knee, contusion of left leg dorsum of foot & abrasion back. **Died in hospital on 26-1-31 at 11 P.M.**

V. L. Jacob ...	(e)	do.	35	Timber cooly	Fracture of left fibula & wound of left knee, ankle and scalp. S.
M. Kullappa ...	(f)	do.	35	Handjumper cooly	Left knee joint opened & wound of right arm. S.
O. Abboyee ...	(f)	do.	40	do.	Punctured wound of left thigh and knee joint opened. S.
V. Poongan ...	(g)	do.	35	Timber cooly	Lacerated wound of right knee, joint opened. S.
K. Annappa	(h)	do.	30	Granite wall cooly	Left thigh crushed & amputated, wound of left fore-arm & right hand. S.
V. Chowry ... and	(i)	do.	35	Timber cooly	Contusion right side of fore-head, deep wound/scalp, wounds of right shoulder, back, fore-arm, both knees & legs. S.
V. Murugan ...	(j)	do.	40	Asst.foreman M.1392 B.4253	Fracture of pelvis, small wounds of left hand, left foot & right leg. S.

Cause of Accident .. UN.

A very heavy rockburst.

Names and Designations of persons prosecuted, etc.	No. of case	Result of Penalty
.....	Nil	

marks and References.

Sd/- C. E. Suryanarayana Rau,
CHIEF INSPECTOR OF MINES
IN MYSORE.

Accident No.14
Year 1931.

DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND EXPLOSIVES.

Inspection of Mines Branch

Particulars of Enquiry.

Report received- 26-1-1931. Dates of Inspection- 24,26 & 27-1-1931 Dates of Enquiry- 25,24,26 27-1-31, 4, and 5 & 7-2-1931.	by	C.E.Suryanarayana Rau, Esq.

Particulars obtained by Inspector and Remarks-

A very heavy rockburst followed by a series of shocks of lesser intensity occurred between 11-26 and 11-32 a.m. on the 23rd January 1931. The resulting quake was so great that it was felt in the surrounding country within a radius of 7 miles of the Field. A very loud report was heard from end to end of the field and all the buildings were violently shaken. Enquiries being instituted it was ascertained that the stoping area between the 62nd and the 70th levels between Oakley's No.2 Vertical and Bullen's Incline Shafts, Ooregum Mine had been affected. As this burst occurred at a time when the full morning shift was at work, a large number of persons were involved in it. Out of a total of 1,660 persons sent down that morning, 272 were working in the affected area. Rescue operations were put in hand immediately and the injured men were brought up and sent as expeditiously as possible in motor ambulance to the Companies' Hospital. By 4 p.m. 56 persons had been sent to hospital and three men had been brought up dead leaving only 8 persons to be accounted for, the rest having escaped unhurt. Rescue parties working "quick shifts" recovered seven men by 9 p.m. one of whom Swaminathan, a timber cooly being alive, and the rest dead. Varadan, a stuff cooly had still to be accounted for.

Rescue

Rescue operations were therefore continued under the most trying conditions and his body also was recovered by 3 p.m. on the following day.

Of the injured persons sent to hospital, Parasuraman, a timber cooly expired soon after arrival there and of the rest, 34 were detained as inpatients and 22 were treated as out-patients. Of the 34 cases in hospital, 8 were classed serious, the injuries of 10 are "under observation" and 16 "trivial". Of the 8 serious cases, Swaminathan, a timber cooly succumbed to the injuries on the 26th January. Ten were killed instantaneously underground making a total of twelve fatalities in all including those that occurred in hospital. The remaining injured persons are making fair progress towards recovery.

A section of this portion of the Mine showing the places where the fatalities occurred is attached herewith. It will be seen from it that the largest number of deaths occurred in the 67th level where a bottom stope was holing through. Three handjumper coolies - Muniappa, Muniswami and Pillappa - who were drilling holes at the point of the stope were killed outright and Moideen Kutty, M.46, their contractor, who had just left the stope, was killed in the 67th level along with two stuff coolies Palayam and Varadan, who were filling a bandy about 90 ft. S. of the stope. Timber mestri Thimmiah M.9712 and his cooly Perumal, who were cutting a piece of timber in the level immediately below the point of the stope were entombed in the debris. Parasuraman, timber cooly, who expir in hospital was in the 67th level handing down poles to his mestri in the stope S. of Air Winze. Swaminathan, timber cooly, was rescued alive from the level after the lapse of 8 hours but succum to his injuries on the 26th January.

The remaining two fatalities occurred in the 68th and 70th levels respectively, Veloo, a handjumper cooly, who was clearing

broken

broken rock in a stope below the 68th level N.Auxiliary Shaft was struck by pieces of falling rock and thrown down the chute. Shanmugam, a timber cooly who was assisting his mestri in repairing a flat chute in the 70th level N.Auxiliary Shaft, was buried in the debris which accumulated in the level owing to the sudden collapse of the chute. The places where these persons were killed have been marked thus ⊕ in the accompanying section.

Of the seven seriously injured persons Murugan, assistant foreman, M.1,392 was pinned down by a large slab of rock at the 63rd level N. Oakley's No.2 Vertical Shaft, sustaining fracture of the pelvis and wounds of left hand, left foot and right leg. Annappa a timber cooly who was in the 67th level N. Oakley's No.2 Vertical Shaft had his left thigh crushed necessitating its amputation. The other cases being of ordinary nature do not call for any special remarks.

A systematic inspection of the affected area was carried out on the 24th, 26th and 27th January with Capt. Best Assistant Underground Agent. The levels N. of Oakley's No.2 Vertical and Auxiliary Shafts from the 64th to the 70th level and the same levels S. of Bullen's Incline Shaft were inspected. Parts of the 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th and the 70th levels between Bullen's Incline and Auxiliary Shafts had been blocked, cutting off through communication. These blocks have been indicated in the Section accompanying this report. The 64th level N. of Oakley's No.2 Vertical Shaft has been disturbed for a distance of about 300 ft. N. of the small dyke; the hangingwall in the level had been blown out between the supports for a thickness of 1 - 2 feet at various places, the track rail on the hangingwall side being lifted up and a few level timbers broken. Some of the reinforcing rails in the concrete lining of the 66th level plat, Oakley's No.2 Vertical Shaft, had been bent and a few broken. The level was blocked beyond the ventilation doors N. of the plat. The 67th level N. of Auxiliary Shaft being

close

close to the centre of this zone was most seriously damaged. The hangingwall and the back of the level showed signs of violent disruption and many large falls of ground had taken place. Two newly started stopes close to Air Winze were not much damaged beyond a few falls of rock here and there but the level beyond it was blocked by a heavy fall of the hanging and the back. The 68th level was similarly affected and a handjumper stope close to the small dyke had closed up owing to the hanging and the footwalls coming together A handjumper mestri and 8 coolies who were working in this stope that morning had a providential escape, as they had just then left the stope to have a drink in the plat. The 69th level showed large falls of ground here and there and was blocked beyond the Air Winze. The 70th level N. of Auxiliary Shaft was affected for about 300 ft. and the level was blocked owing to the collapse of the flat chute where Shanmugam, a timber cooly was killed. The levels S. of Bullen's Incline Shaft were similarly affected beyond Oakley's No.1 Main Winze. The 67th and the 68th levels suffered the most. The approach to the stope above the 67th level where three men had been killed was rendered difficult owing to heavy falls of ground. Beyon the stope an old blackrock box and a few coverings having come down, the level had been practically blocked cutting off all access to the entombed men. The rescue parties had to crawl through a narrow hole in the footwall immediately under the blackrock box the filling of which was threatening to run down at the slightest disturbance. I visited this place to ascertain the extent of risk involved in attempting to reach the unfortunate victims. Rescue work under these conditions was most trying and hazardous and great credit is due to those that risked their lives to recover the entombed persons The 68th level was blocked for about 50 ft., and 20 ft. of the level beyond it had collapsed. The 69th and the 70th levels are not so seriously affected though blocked for short distances.

An examination of the accompanying section will show that

the

the disturbed area lies between two small dykes (delerite) and a fault plane which occupy the southern and the northern boundaries respectively. The reef between the 62nd and the 70th levels in this area is being stoped out and all the excavations (finished stopes) have been either systematically supported by granite walls or filled with waste rock. The granite packs were evolved after a series of experiments to find out the most suitable material to support the hangingwall. The stopes where these walls had been built up were not affected except for some small falls of ground between the supports but the levels had been shattered owing to the disruption of the hanging and the footwalls between the supports. The stope below the 66th level where three men lost their lives and the one below in which the walls had come together, appear to be the zone of maximum intensity of the burst. Realising the disturbed nature of the country in this area which is cut up by two large dip faults and dykes, particular attention was paid to support excavations by systematically building granite packwalls as will be seen from the vertical section.

The efficacy of these granite packs as supports was put to a severe test on the 18th December 1929 when a much heavier rockburst occurred in the main stoping area of the same section of the mine between the 58th and the 66th levels. The stopes where granite packwalls had been used as permanent supports were not affected proving thereby the superiority of the new method of supporting ground to withstand the superincumbent pressures and to minimise the effects of violent ground movements. The same results were noticed in the present instance also proving a second time that the granite packs are the nearest approach to the ideal support which could take the place of the original rock removed.

I discussed this accident with Mr. Crowle, Superintendent and Capt. Fairweather, Chief Underground Agent with a view to explore

explore the possible ways and means of minimising the effects of rockbursts and to concert measures to reduce damage to person and property as far as practicable. As a result of this discussion certain modifications in the methods of work have been agreed upon, viz: to strip the backs of levels and secure them prior to starting stoping operations and to fit the levels with suitable heavy timber sets wherever required in addition to the usual method of supporting with pig-styes and coverings. It is hoped that these precautionary measures will mitigate the ravages of rockbursts and minimise danger to workmen.

The heavy type of rockburst known as "Quakes" is peculiar to the Kolar Gold Field and the earth tremors resulting from it are some times felt on surface at places several miles away from the Field. They cause extensive damage to property and comparatively less to persons. They are attributable to superincumbent pressures incidental to deep mining and manifest themselves along the natural joint, foliation, faults, dykes and other weak planes in the rocks enclosing the reefs. About 13,000 shocks on the average are recorded annually by the Seismographs installed at the K.G.F. Observatory of which 9 % are classed as heavy and only about 0.6% are ever located underground and fewer still occur at the working points. It will therefore be seen that it is not every rockburst that results in damage to property or injuries to persons, unless it occurs in actual working places where workmen are present.

The intensity of this rockburst was so great that N/S and E/W styles on the recording drums of the Seismographs at the Ooregum Observatory were thrown off, leaving only the vertical styl which recorded a movement of 20 m/m. In the interval that elapsed between the heaviest burst and the resetting of the styles there were no less than 6 heavy bursts recorded by the vertical instrument the intensities varying from 3 m/m to 2 m/m.

It may be of interest to note here that a very heavy rockburst occurred at 12 hrs. 35 minutes (middle of the morning shift) on Friday the 30th January 1931 and the severity of the shock was so violent as to throw off the styles of the Seismographs, but it did not result in any serious consequences as it occurred somewhere outside the working zone. Many improvements in the methods of supporting excavations have been made in recent years and further efforts are being continued to achieve even better results irrespective of the trouble and expense involved in this campaign.

All the excavations in the area affected by the rockburst had been supported by all the known and tried methods and adequate precautions had been taken to render the working places safe. Under the circumstances the heavy loss of life is deplorable but unavoidable.

C E Ryan

CHIEF INSPECTOR OF MINES

IN MYSORE.

Oorgaum, K.G.F.,
12th February 1931.

2 drafts

3 Copies
file 3-30-68

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF
HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF
MYSORE.

Read:-

Letters Nos. 1254 and 1275 date
the 24th ~~January 1931~~ and 27th January 19
respectively from the Chief Inspecto
of Mines to the Private Secretary to
the Dewan of Mysore reporting the
occurrence of a very heavy rock-burs
in the OOrgaum Mine, K.G.F. on 23rd
1931 affecting many levels and re-
sulting in many casualities.

2. Letter No. 1415 dated 12th Feb.
1931 from the same Officer submitting
a detailed report of the ~~said~~ acci-
dent referred to in his letter read
above.

Order No. 8.941.

Dated, 6.4.31

The Chief Inspector reports that
a very heavy rock-burst, followed by
a series of shocks of lesser inten-
sity, occurred between 11-26 and 11-3
a.m. on the 23rd January 1931 in the
Ooregum Mine of the K.G.F. and that
the resulting quake was so great
that it was felt in the surrounding
country within a radius of 7 miles
of the Field. It is said that a
very loud report ~~is also said to have been~~ was heard from
end to end of the field and all the
buildings were violently shaken. On

investigation, it was found that the sloping area between the 62nd and the 70th levels between Oakley's No. 2 Vertical and Bullen's Incline Shafts, had been affected and that 272 persons were working in the affected area at the time. Rescue operations were immediately set on foot; the dead and the injured were brought to the surface and the latter were sent to the Company's hospital as expeditiously as possible, in motor ambulances. By 3 p.m. the next day the last man is said to have been accounted for. The total casualties were 12 dead, of whom 10 were killed instantaneously and 2 died later in hospital, and 55 injured, 7 of them seriously. The largest number of deaths, namely 10, occurred in the 67th level where a bottom stope was holing through and which, along with the 68th level, suffered most damage. The other two deaths occurred in the 68th and the 70th levels. Parts of the 66th to the 70th levels between Bullen's Incline and Auxiliary shafts had been blocked, cutting off through communication, and the 64th level north of Oakley's No. 2 Vertical Shaft was also disturbed for a distance of about 300 feet north of a small dyke.

The report further shows that the disturbed area lies between two small dikes (dolerite) on the north

and a fault plane on the south and that owing to ~~the~~ their defects in the reef the excavations (finished stopes) here had been either systematically supported by granite walls or filled with waste rock. It is also stated that this method of support by granite packs was evolved after a series of experiments to find out the most suitable material to support the hanging wall, and that the stopes where these walls had been built up were not affected, except for some small falls of ground between the supports, but that the levels had been shattered owing to the disruption of the hanging walls and the foot walls between the supports. Previous rock-bursts are also said to have proved the efficacy of the granite packs as supports to the hanging wall to withstand the superincumbent pressures and to minimise the effects of violent ground movements. However, in order further to minimise the effects of these rock-bursts, if possible, it has been decided to strip the backs of levels and secure them before starting stoping operations and to fit the levels with suitable heavy timber sets wherever required, in addition to the usual method of supporting them with pigstyes and coverings. The Chief Inspector adds that the heavy type of

of rock-bursts known as "Quakes" is peculiar to the K.G.F and ~~are~~ is attributable to super-incumbent pressures incidental to deep mining. In the circumstances, therefore, Government consider that the accident was unavoidable and that adequate precautions had been taken to render the working places safe. They deeply regret the heavy casualties caused by the accident and wish to express their appreciation of the ~~bravery~~ courage shown by the rescue parties who are said to have worked under very trying and hazardous conditions and but for ~~whom~~ whose efforts the loss of life might have been greater.

27 3 31

Secretary to Government
Development Departments.

30.3.31

To

The Chief Inspector of Mines
in Mysore.

SCHEDULE. Accident No.14. Year 1931.

Name and Situation of Mine.- OOREGUM GOLD MINES.

Date 23-1-1931 | Time 11-25 | Place (a) Stope below the 66th level N., Oakley's Section. (b) Drive, 67th level N., Oakley's Section (c) Stope below the 66th level N.Oakley's Sect (d) Drive, 67th level N.Oakley's No.2 Vertic Shaft. (e) Drive, 70th level N., Auxiliary Shaft. (f) Stope below the 67th level N., Oakley's No.2 Vertical Shaft. (g) Drive, 66th level S., Bullen's Incline Shaft. (h) Drive, 67th level S., Bullen's Incline Shaft. (i) Drive, 66th level N., Auxiliary Shaft. (j) Drive, 63rd level N. of Oakley's No.2 Vertical Shaft. | Class 11.

Killed or injured.		Hours Worked.	Age.	Occupation	Nature of injury.
12. O. Muniappa	(a)	4 5/12	35	Handjumper cooly	Deep wounds of scalp, both knees and right side of hip. F.
O.Muniswami	(a)	do.	25	do.	Fracture of skull, left humerus, deep wound of left foot & abrasions all over the body. F.
C.Perumal alias Chinniah	(b)	do.	30	Timber mestri H.9712 B.8842	Fracture of skull, right temple, right ear torn & fracture of spine. F.
Pillappa	(a)	do.	45	Handjumper cooly	Penetrating wound of left thigh, muscles cut, wound of right temple, both ears torn, wounds of scalp and multiple injuries all over the body. F.
V. Perumal ..	(b)	do.	36	Timber cooly	Deep wound of scalp, cranium exposed, multiple injuries all over the body. F.
T. Varadan ..	(b)	do.	40	Stuff cooly	Multiple injuries to head & body. F.
V. Paleyam ..	(b)	do.	22	do.	Fracture of skull, nose torn, penetrating wound of lower 3rd of left leg and multiple injuries all over the body. F.
E. Veloo	(c)	do.	35	Handjumper cooly	Fracture of skull & penetrating wound of left knee. F.
K. Mohideen Kutty	(d)	do.	50	Contractor. H.46.	Fracture of skull, brain exposed. F.
Parasuraman	(d)	do.	35	Timber cooly	Right leg completely crushed & multiple injuries all over the body F
P. Shanmugam.. and	(c)	do.	25	Timber cooly	Right thigh fractured, wound of left cheek & multiple injuries all over the body. F.
D. Swaminathan	(b)	do.	30	Timber cooly	Wound of forehead, left knee, contusion of left leg dorsum of foot - abrasion [illegible] Died in hospital on 24-1-31

V. Poongan ...	(g)	do.	35	Timber cooly	Lacerated wound of right knee, joint opened. S.
K. Annappan ...	(h)	do.	30	Granite wall cooly	Left thigh crushed & amputated, wound of left fore-arm & right hand. S.
V. Chowry ...	(i)	do.	35	Timber cooly	Contusion right side of fore-head, deep wound scalp, wounds of right shoulder, back, fore-arm, both knees & legs. S.
and V. Murugan ...	(j)	do.	40	Asst.foreman M.1392 B.4253	Fracture of pelvis, small wounds of left hand, left foot & right leg. S.

Cause of Accident .. UN.

A very heavy rockburst.

Names and Designations of persons prosecuted, etc. | No. of case | Result of Penalty

..... M11 .....

Remarks and References

Sd/- C. E. Suryanarayana Rau,
CHIEF INSPECTOR OF MINES

2D

Accident No.14.
Year 1931.

SCHEDULE.

Name and Situation of Mine.- OORAGUM GOLD MINE.

Date 23-1-1931 | Time 11-25 | Class 11.

Place
9(a) Stope below the 66th level N., Oakley's Section.
(b) Drive, 67th level N., Oakley's Section
(c) Stope below the 68th level N.Oakley's Sect
(d) Drive, 67th level N.Oakley's No.2 Vertic Shaft.
(e) Drive, 70th level N., Auxiliary Shaft.
(f) Stope below the 67th level N., Oakley's No.2 Vertical Shaft.
(g) Drive, 68th level S., Bullen's Incline Shaft.
(h) Drive, 67th level S., Bullen's Incline Shaft.
(i) Drive, 68th level N., Auxiliary Shaft.
(j) Drive, 63rd level N. of Oakley's No.2 Vertical Shaft.

Killed or injured.		Hours worked	Age	Occupation	Nature of injury.
12. O.Muniappa	(a)	4 8/12	35	Handjumper cooly	Deep wounds of scalp, both knees and right side of hip. F.
O.Muniswami	(a)	do.	25	do.	Fracture of skull, left humerus, deep wound of left foot & abrasions all over the body. F.
C.Perumal alias Thimmiah	(b)	do.	30	Timber mestri M.9712 B.6842	Fracture of skull, right temple, right ear torn & fracture of spine. F.
Pillappa	(a)	do.	45	Handjumper cooly	Penetrating wound of left thigh, muscles cut, wound of right temple, both ears torn, wounds of scalp and multiple injuries all over the body. F.
V. Perumal ..	(b)	do.	36	Timber cooly	Deep wound of scalp, cranium exposed, multiple injuries all over the body. F.
T. Varadan ..	(b)	do.	40	Stuff cooly	Multiple injuries to head & body. F.
V. Palayam ..	(b)	do.	22	do.	Fracture of skull, nose torn, penetrating wound of lower 3rd of left leg and multiple injuries all over the body. F.
B. Veloo ..	(c)	do.	35	Handjumper cooly	Fracture of skull & penetrating wound of left knee. F.
K. Mohideen Kutty	(d)	do.	50	Contractor. M.46.	Fracture of skull, brain exposed. F.
Parasuraman	(d)	do.	35	Timber cooly	Right leg completely crushed & multiple injuries all over the body F
Shunmugam.. and	(c)	do.	25	Timber cooly	Right thigh fractured, wound of left cheek & multiple injuries all over the body. F.
Swaminathan	(b)	do.	30	Timber cooly	Wound of forehead, left knee, contusion of left leg dorsum of foot & abrasion back. died in hospital on 25-1-31 at 11 P.M.

E. Jacob ...	(b)	do.	35	Timber cooly	Fracture of left fibula & wound of left knee, ankle and scalp. S.
M. Kullappa ...	(f)	do.	35	Handjumper cooly	Left knee joint opened & wound of right arm. S.
O. Abboyee ...	(f)	do.	40	do.	Punctured wound of left thigh and knee joint opened. S.
V. Poonnan ...	(g)	do.	35	Timber cooly	Lacerated wound of right knee, joint opened. S.
K. Annappan ...	(h)	do.	30	Granite wall cooly	Left thigh crushed & amputated wound of left fore-arm & right hand. S.
V. Chowry ...	(i)	do.	35	Timber cooly	Contusion right side of fore-head, deep wound scalp, wound of right shoulder, back, fore arm, both knees & legs. S.
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Cause of Accident .. UN.

A very heavy rockburst.

Names and Designations of persons prosecuted, etc.	No. of case	Result of Penalty
..... Nil		

Remarks and References.-

Sd/- C. E. Suryanarayana Rau,
CHIEF INSPECTOR OF MINES
IN MYSORE.

Accident No.14
Year 1931.

DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND EXPLOSIVES.

Inspection of Mines Branch

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Particulars of Enquiry.

Report received- 26-1-1931.

Dates of Inspection- 24,26 & 27-1-1931 by C.S.Suryanarayana Rau, Esq.

Dates of Enquiry- 23,24,26 27-1-31, 4, and 5 & 7-2-1931.

Particulars obtained by Inspector and Remarks-

A very heavy rockburst followed by a series of shocks of lesser intensity occurred between 11-26 and 11-32 a.m. on the 23rd January 1931. The resulting quake was so great that it was felt in the surrounding country within a radius of 7 miles of the Field A very loud report was heard from end to end of the field and all the buildings were violently shaken. Enquiries being instituted it was ascertained that the stoping area between the 62nd and the 70th levels between Oakley's No.2 Vertical and Bullen's Incline Shafts, Ooregum Mine had been affected. As this burst occurred at a time when the full morning shift was at work, a large number of persons were involved in it. Out of a total of 1,660 persons sen down that morning, 272 Were working in the effected area. Rescue operations were put in hand immediately and the injured men were brought up and sent as expeditiously as possible in motor ambulanc to the Companies' Hospital. By 4 p.m. 56 persons had been sent to hospital and three men had been brought up dead leaving only 8 persons to be accounted for, the rest having escaped unhurt. Rescue parties working "quick shifts" recovered seven men by 9 p.m. one of whom Swaminathan, a timber cooly being alive, and the rest dea Varadan, a stuff cooly had still to be accounted for.

Rescue

Rescue operations were therefore continued under the most trying conditions and his body also was recovered by 3 p.m. on the following day.

Of the injured persons sent to hospital, Parasuraman, a timber cooly expired soon after arrival there and of the rest, 34 were detained as inpatients and 22 were treated as out-patients. Of the 34 cases in hospital, 8 were classed serious, the injuries of 10 are "under observation" and 16 "trivial". Of the 8 serious cases, Swaminathan, a timber cooly succumbed to the injuries on the 26th January. Ten were killed instantaneously underground making a total of twelve fatalities in all including those that occurred in hospital. The remaining injured persons are making fair progress towards recovery.

A section of this portion of the mine showing the places where the fatalities occurred is attached herewith. It will be seen from it that the largest number of deaths occurred in the 67th level where a bottom stope was holing through. Three handjumper coolies - Muniappa, Muniswami and Pillappa - who were drilling holes at the point of the stope were killed outright and Moideen Kutty, M.46, their contractor, who had just left the stope, was killed in the 67th level along with two stuff coolies Palayam and Varadan, who were filling a bandy about 90 ft. S. of the stope. Timber mestri Chinniah M.9712 and his cooly Perumal, who were cutting a piece of timber in the level immediately below the point of the stope were entombed in the debris. Parasuraman, timber cooly, who expired in hospital was in the 67th level handing down poles to his mestri in the stope S. of Air Winze. Swaminathan, timber cooly, was rescued alive from the level after the lapse of 8 hours but succumbed to his injuries on the 26th January.

The remaining two fatalities occurred in the 68th and 70th levels respectively, Veloo, a handjumper cooly, who was clearing

broken

broken rock in a stope below the 68th level N.Auxiliary Shaft was struck by pieces of falling rock and thrown down the chute. Chenmugam, a timber cooly who was assisting his mestri in repairing flat chute in the 70th level N.Auxiliary Shaft, was buried in the debris which accumulated in the level owing to the sudden collapse of the chute. The places where these persons were killed have been marked thus ⊕ in the accompanying section.

Of the seven seriously injured persons Murugan, assistant foreman, M.1,392 was pinned down by a large slab of rock at the level N. Oakley's No.2 Vertical Shaft, sustaining fracture of the pelvis and wounds of left hand, left foot and right leg. Annap a timber cooly who was in the 67th level N. Oakley's No.2 Vertic Shaft had his left thigh crushed necessitating its amputation. other cases being of ordinary nature do not call for any special remarks.

A systematic inspection of the affected area was carried on the 24th, 26th and 27th January with Capt. Best Assistant Und ground Agent. The levels N. of Oakley's No.2 Vertical and Auxi liary Shafts from the 64th to the 70th level and the same level S. of Bullen's Incline Shaft were inspected. Parts of the 66t 67th, 68th, 69th and the 70th levels between Bullen's Incline Auxiliary Shafts had been blocked, cutting off through communica tion. These blocks have been indicated in the Section accompa this report. The 64th level N. of Oakley's No.2 Vertical Sha been disturbed for a distance of about 300 ft. N. of the small the hangingwall in the level had been blown out between the s for a thickness of 1 - 2 feet at various places, the track ra on the hangingwall side being lifted up and a few level timb broken. Some of the reinforcing rails in the concrete lini the 66th level plat, Oakley's No.2 Vertical Shaft, had been b and a few broken. The level was blocked beyond the ventil doors N. of the plat. The 67th level N. of Auxiliary Sha

close to the centre of this zone was most seriously damaged. The hangingwall and the back of the level showed signs of violent disruption and many large falls of ground had taken place. Two newly started stopes close to Air Winze were not much damaged beyond a few falls of rock here and there but the level beyond it was blocked by a heavy fall of the hanging and the back. The 68th level was similarly affected and a handjumper stope close to the small dyke had closed up owing to the hanging and the footwalls coming together A handjumper mestri and 8 coolies who were working in this stope that morning had a providential escape, as they had just then left the stope to have a drink in the plat. The 69th level showed lar falls of ground here and there and was blocked beyond the Air Winz The 70th level N. of Auxiliary Shaft was affected for about 300 ft. and the level was blocked owing to the collapse of the flat chute where Shanmugam, a timber cooly was killed. The levels S. of Bullen's Incline Shaft were similarly affected beyond Oakley's Main Winze. The 67th and the 68th levels suffered the most. approach to the stope above the 67th level where three men had killed was rendered difficult owing to heavy falls of ground. the stope an old blackrock box and a few coverings having come the level had been practically blocked cutting off all access the entombed men. The rescue parties had to crawl through a hole in the footwall immediately under the blackrock box the of which was threatening to run down at the slightest disturb I visited this place to ascertain the extent of risk involved attempting to reach the unfortunate victims. Rescue work these conditions was most trying and hazardous and great c due to those that risked their lives to recover the entombe The 68th level was blocked for about 50 ft., and 20 ft. of level beyond it had collapsed. The 69th and the 70th lev not so seriously affected though blocked for short distan

An examination of the accompanying section will s

the disturbed area lies between two small dykes (dolerite) and a fault plane which occupy the southern and the northern boundaries respectively. The reef between the 62nd and the 70th levels in this area is being stoped out and all the excavations (finished stopes) have been either systematically supported by granite walls or filled with waste rock. The granite packs were evolved after a series of experiments to find out the most suitable material to support the hangingwall. The stopes where these walls had been built up were not affected except for some small falls of ground between the supports but the levels had been shattered owing to the disruption of the hanging and the footwalls between the supports. The stope below the 66th level where three men lost their lives and the one below in which the walls had come together, appear to be the zone of maximum intensity of the burst. Realising the disturb nature of the country in this area which is cut up by two large dip faults and dykes, particular attention was paid to support excavations by systematically building granite packwalls as will be seen from the vertical section.

The efficacy of these granite packs as supports was put to a severe test on the 18th December 1929 when a much heavier rockburst occurred in the main stoping area of the same section of the mine between the 68th and the 66th levels. The stopes where granite packwalls had been used as permanent supports were not affected

oving thereby the superiority of the new method of supporting round to withstand the superincumbent pressures and to minimise the effects violent ground movements. The same result under notice

ecent instance also proving a second time t

explore the possible ways and means of minimising the effects of rockbursts and to concert measures to reduce damage to person and property as far as practicable. As a result of this discussion certain modifications in the methods of work have been agreed upon, viz; to strip the backs of levels and secure them prior to starting stoping operations and to fit the levels with suitable heavy timber sets wherever required in addition to the usual method of supporting with pig-styes and coverings. It is hoped that these precautionary measures will mitigate the ravages of rockbursts and minimise danger to workmen.

The heavy type of rockburst known as "Quakes" is peculiar to the Kolar Gold Field and the earth tremors resulting from it are some times felt on surface at places several miles away from the Field. They cause extensive damage to property and comparatively less to persons. They are attributable to superincumbent pressures incidental to deep mining and manifest themselves along the natural joint, foliation, faults, dykes and other weak planes in the rocks enclosing the reefs. About 13,000 shocks on the average are recorded annually by the Seismographs installed at the K.G.F. Observatory of which 9 % are classed as heavy and only about 0.6% are ever located underground and fewer still occur at the working points. It will therefore be seen that it is not every rockburst that results in damage to property or injuries to persons, unless it occurs in actual working places where workmen are present.

The intensity of this rockburst was so great that N/S and E/W styles on the recording drums of the Seismographs at the Coregum Observatory were thrown off, leaving only the vertical style which recorded a movement of 20 m/m. In the interval that elapsed between the heaviest burst and the resetting of the styles there were no less than 6 heavy bursts recorded by the vertical instrument, the intensities varying from 3 m/m to 2 m/m.

It may be of interest to note here that a very heavy rockburst occurred at 12 hrs. 35 minutes (middle of the morning shift) on Friday the 30th January 1931 and the severity of the shock was so violent as to throw off the styles of the Seismographs, but it did not result in any serious consequences as it occurred somewhere outside the working zone. Many improvements in the methods of supporting excavations have been made in recent years and further efforts are being continued to achieve even better results irrespective of the trouble and expence involved in this campaign.

All the excavations in the area affected by the rockburst had been supported by all the known and tried methods and adequate precautions had been taken to render the working places safe. Under the circumstances the heavy loss of life is deplorable but unavoidable.

Sd/- C.S. Suryanarayana Rau,
CHIEF INSPECTOR OF MINES
IN MYSORE.

Oorgaum, K.G.F.,
12th February 1931.
M.S.

"Copy"

C.S.Rau

CHIEF INSPECTOR OF MINES

IN MYSORE.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF HIS HIGHNESS

THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE

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R o a d.-

1. Letters Nos. 1254 and 1275 dated the 24th and the 27th January 1931 respectively from the Chief Inspector of Mines in - Mysore to the Private Secretary to the Dewan of Mysore reporting the occurrence of a very heavy rock-burst in the Oorgaum Mine, - Kolar Gold Fields, on the 23rd January 1931 affecting many levels and resulting in many casualties.

2. Letter No. 1415 dated the 12th February 1931 from the same officer submitting a detailed report of the accident referred to in his letters read above.

ORDER No. D. 941 1/Gen C: 3-20-68

Bangalore, dated the 6th A p r i l 1931.

The Chief Inspector reports that a very heavy rock-burst, followed by a series of shocks of lesser intensity, occurred --- between 11-26 and 11-32 A.M. on the 23rd January 1931 in the Oorgaum Mine of the Kolar Gold Fields and that the resulting quake - was so great that it was felt in the surrounding country within a radius of 7 miles of the Fields. It is said that a very loud report was heard from end to end of the Fields and that all the buildings were violently shaken. On investigation, it was found that the stoping area between the 62nd and the 70th levels between Oakley's No. 2 Vertical and Bullen's Incline Shafts had been affected and that 272 persons were working in the affected area - at the time. Rescue operations were immediately set on foot; - the dead and the injured were brought to the surface and the - - latter were sent to the Company's hospital as expeditiously as possible in motor ambulances. By 3 P.M. the next day the last man is said to have been accounted for. The total casualties were 12 dead, of whom 10 were killed instantaneously and 2 died

later in hospital, and 55 injured, 7 of them seriously. The largest number of deaths, namely 10, occurred in the 67th level where a bottom stope was holing through and which, along with the 68th level, suffered most damage. The other two deaths occurred in the 68th and the 70th levels. Parts of the 66th to the 70th levels between Bullen's Incline and Auxiliary shafts had been blocked, cutting off through communication, and the 64th level north of Oakley's No. 2 Vertical Shaft was also disturbed for a distance of about 300 feet north of a small dyke.

2. The report further shows that the disturbed area lies between two small dykes (dolerite) on the north and a fault plane on the south and that owing to these defects in the reef the excavations (finished stopes) here had been either systematically supported by granite walls or filled with waste rock. It is also stated that this method of support by granite packs was evolved after a series of experiments to find out the most suitable material to support the hanging wall, and that the stopes where these walls had been built up were not affected, except for some small falls of ground between the supports, but that the levels had been shattered owing to the disruption of the hanging walls and the foot walls between the supports. Previous rock-bursts are also said to have proved the efficacy of the granite packs as supports to the hanging wall to withstand the super-incumbent pressures and to minimise the effects of violent ground movements. However, in order further to minimise the effects of these rock-bursts, if possible it has been decided to strip the backs of levels and secure them before starting stoping operations and to fit the levels with suitable heavy timber sets wherever required, in addition to the usual method of supporting them with pig-styes and coverings. The Chief Inspector adds that the heavy type of rock-bursts known as "Quakes" is peculiar to the Kolar Gold Fields and is attributable to the super-incumbent pressures incidental to deep mining. In the circumstances, therefore, Government consider that the accident was unavoidable and that adequate precautions had been

taken to render the working places safe. They deeply regret the heavy casualties caused by the accident and wish to express their appreciation of the courage shown by the rescue parties who are said to have worked under very trying and hazardous conditions - and but for whose efforts the loss of life might have been greater

4/4

FOR SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENTS.

To

The Chief Inspector of Mines in Mysore.

E.W.M/S.

2 duplo

32

Appendix F G—1

SUBJECT.....

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Section yest.

File No. 1-30.

Serial No. 69

No. Pol. 997

&

Diary No. of letter replied to 6219

General and Revenue Secretariat

( )

the *193*

Date of issue 6. 4. 1931.

Signed by Mr. N. Rama Rao

To

The Secy to the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore, Bangalore

Sir,

In continuation of this office letter No. Pol. 769/yest. 1-30 d. 2.2.31 reporting the occurrence of a heavy rockburst in the Champion Reefs, K.G.F. on the 23rd of January 1931 I am directed to forward herewith for your information a detailed report of the above accident together with a blue print diagram of the area affected, received from the Chief Inspector of Mines. A copy of the G.O. issued in

List of enclosures.....

Copied by.....

Examined by.....

[over

WD 02559—GPB—25,000—25-6-30

The matter is also enclosed herewith.

I have etc.,

Ce

20/2

Din Yeey to you.

45/1 file.

FERN HILL,

OOTACAMUND.

27th APRIL 1931.

My dear Mirza,

In returning herewith your file No:519 of the 22nd instant dealing with a rock-burst at the Kolar Gold Fields on the 23rd January 1931, I am desired by His Highness the Maharaja to say that he would be glad if arrangements could be made for giving him earlier advice of the particulars relating to these disastrous happenings.

His Highness observes from the newspapers that there was another occurrence of the same sort in the Mysore Mine on the 23rd April, and would be glad to have particulars of that as soon as they reach your office.

In connection with the rock-burst of the 23rd January last, His Highness observes that reference is made to the heroism of the men who went in at great risk to their own lives to rescue the

coolies who were buried. His Highness would be glad to know whether you think it practicable to give some recognition of the conduct of these me either through a recommendation to the Royal Hum Society or in some more direct way.

Yours sincerely,

To

Sir Charles Todhunter, K.C.S.I.
Private Secy. to H.H.

My dear Sir Charles,

With reference to your D.O.letter No.45/1 file dated the 27th April 1931 in regard to accidents on the K.G.F., I write to say that the following three reports are usually received in all such cases of accident from the Chief Inspector of Mines: -

(1) a telephone report as soon as an accident occurs;

(2) a further report as soon as the facts are known; and

(3) a final detailed report after completion of investigation.

2. As the telephone message merely reports the occurrence of an accident and gives no details and as the final report reaches Govt. long after the incident to which it relates, I am making arrangements to submit for the perusal of His Highness the second of the reports mentioned above, as soon as it is received here. This will be done, however, only in the case of accidents involving loss of life, as others are not considered important enough to be brought to His Highness' notice.

3. As regards recognition of the

36

heroism of the rescue party, the Chief Inspector of Mines will be consulted and a further reference made in the matter.

Yours Sincerely,

RR 7/5/31

Mac 2/5/31

2440/Encls. 77

Bangalore,

13th May 1931.

My dear Sir Charles,

With reference to your D.O. letter No.45/1 file dated the 27th April 1931 to Sir Mirza Ismail in regard to accidents on the Kolar Gold Fields, I write to say that the following three reports are usually received in all such cases of accident from the Chief Inspector of Mines:-

(1) a telephone report as soon as an accident occurs;

(2) a f[redacted] as soon as the facts are known, and

(3) a final de[redacted]ed report after completion of investigation.

2. As the telephone message merely reports the occurrence of an accident and gives no details, and as the final report reaches Government long after the incident to which it relates, I am making arrangements to submit for the perusal of His Highness the second of the reports mentioned above, as soon as it is received here. This will be done, however, only in the case of accidents involving loss of life, as others are not considered important enough to be brought to His Highness' notice. The telephone report will also be submitted if required as soon as it is received.

3. As regards recognition of the heroism of the rescue party, the Chief Inspector of Mines will be consulted and a further reference made in the matter.

4. I herewith send the second report regarding the ~~recent~~ rock-burst accident in the Mysore Mine last month.

Yours sincerely,

Sd. M. N. K.

Sir Charles Todhunter, K.C.S.I.,
Private Secretary to His Highness
the Maharaja of Mysore,
Camp Fernhill.

Ref 3-30-95

C-63

Awdry House,
Fern Hill, 15th May 1931.

7611 OFFICE 1931

My dear Krishna Rao,

PRIV. SECRETARIAT 18 MAY 1931 DEVELOPMENT BRANCH.

I am desired to thank you for your d.o. letter No.2440 of the 13th instant, and to say that His Highness the Maharaja approves your proposal therein, namely, to send him, in all cases of accident at the Kolar Gold Fields in which loss of life is involved, the report that is made as soon as the facts are known.

Please note and arrange for sending these reports.

His Highness would also like to have a copy of the telephone report in cases in which loss of life occurs.

He awaits a further report regarding the recognition of the heroism of the rescue party in the accident of the 23rd January 1931.

The C.J's report be obtained early

He is very distressed to hear of the second rockburst in the Mysore Mine which has resulted in eleven persons being cut off and the circumstances which make it almost certain that they must perish

before any rescue party can reach them.

Yours sincerely,

Appendix F G—1

SUBJECT.....

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Section Genl.

File No. 3-30.

Serial No. 90

No. D/10420

Diary No. of letter replied to 6219

General and Revenue Secretariat

the *193*

e of issue 18/5/31

Signed by Rr R. Narayana Rao

Flag V

To

The Chief Inspector of Mines in Mysore, Oorgaum, K.G.F.

Sir,

In inviting your kind reference to the detailed report submitted with your letter No. 1415 d. 12.2.31 in connection with the recent heavy Rockburst accident that occurred in the Oorgaum Mines, K.G.F. on 23.1.31, I am desired to observe that reference is made therein to the heroism of the men who went in, at great risk to their own lives, to rescue the

[over

List of enclosures.....

Copied by.....

Examined by.....

WD 02559—GPB—25,000—25-6-30.

casties who were buried in the debris
and to enquire whether if you think
it practicable to show some recog-
nition of the conduct of these men
either through a recommendation
to the Royal Humane Society, or in
some more direct way.
The purport of an ~~early~~ reply is re-
quested as a report has to be sub-
mitted to His Highness in the matter.

Yours sincerely,

RJ 10/5/57

Den Yeo in charge.

Geol 3-30-90 SECRETA

IMMEDIATE.

GEN. 2 MAY 31 D 7705

DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND EXPLOSIVES.

D. M. E. 31.]

Telegraphic address:
"MINESPECTOR."

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INSPECTOR OF MINES
IN MYSORE.

D.O.No. 2083

Dated, Oorgaum, 20th May 1931.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your D.O. letter No.10420/Geol.3-30-90 dated 18-5-31 enquiring whether it is practicable to show some recognition of the conduct of persons, who have rescued coolies from the debris at great personal risk to themselves in connection with the heavy rockburst accident in Ooregum Mine on 23-4-1931, I beg to state that it is extremely difficult to select individuals for special recognition as a large number of gangs - working quick shifts - are invariably employed on such work. It may appear unfair to make invidious distinction between one gang and another where every gang drafted for rescue work endeavours to do its "little bit" to save human life under extremely trying conditions. Individuals showing initiative or exhibiting outstanding abilities on such occasions are invariably rewarded - generally in coin - by the mining authorities.

It is indeed a very laudable object to show some recognition of the conduct of persons for heroism in the midst of danger but where "team" work is involved, as it is in mine rescue work, it rather complicates matters to select individuals for special recognition. Moreover, accidents due to rockbursts occur frequently on this Field and therefore the work of rescuing the unfortunate victims from dangerous places is of common occurrence. As I have been asked for an immediate reply I am writing this my personal view of this subject.

It is however desirable to ascertain the opinion of Messrs. John Taylor & Sons' Committee in this matter and I solicit the permission of Government to do so.

Yours sincerely,

C E Srinivasa Rao

To

R. Ranga Rao, Esq., B.A., B.L.,
Secretary to Government, Development Departments,
(in charge), Bangalore.

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Appendix F G–1]

SUBJECT.....

Section Genl.
File No. 3–30.
Serial No. 97

D.

Diary No. of letter replied to 7705

No. D 10686

To

The Chief Inspector of Mines in M
Ooregaum, Kolar Dt.

General and Revenue Secretariat

( )

the 193 .

Date of issue 5/6/31

Signed by for P.S. Lashi

Dear Sir,

With regard to your D.O
letter No. 2083 d. 20.5.31 furnishing
your personal views in the mat
ter of the recognition of the heroi
conduct of the men who went to
rescue coolies ~~from the debris~~ at
great personal risk in the recent
burst accident in the Ooregum
Mine on 23rd Jany 1931 and re
questing permission of Govt to con
sult Messrs. John Taylor & Sons'
Committee in the matter, I am
desired

List of enclosures.....

Copied by.....

Examined by.....

state that ~~the opinions of~~ Messrs. Taylors Inns' Committee may be consulted as proposed.

~~to subject may be obtained at once~~
~~and the same communicated to you~~
~~forthwith without further delay~~

Yours sincerely,

6 31

Geol. 3-30-134

D. M. E. 31.]

Telegraphic address:
"MINESPECTOR."

DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND EXPLOSIVES.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INSPECTOR OF MINES
IN MYSORE.

D.O.No. 901/8. one.

Dated, Oorgaum, 5th December 1931.

DEVELOPMENT SECRETARY
7 DEC. 1931

D 2136
GEN. & REV. SECRETARIAT.
7 DEC. 1931
DEVELOPMENT BRANCH.

Dear Sir,

With reference to correspondence ending with your D.O.letter No.D.10686/Geol.3-30-97 dated 5-6-31 in the matter of the recognition of the heroic conduct of persons in rescue work in mining ensuing from rock-bursts or other causes, I beg to enclose for the information of Government copy of letter dated 2nd December 1931 received from the Executive Member, Messrs. John Taylor & Sons' Committee expressing the Committee's views on this subject which runs more or less on the same lines as mine expressed in my D.O. letter No.2083 dated 20th May 1931.

Yours sincerely,
C E Srinivasamurthi

B. T. Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,

Secretary to the Government of His Highness
the Maharaja of Mysore, Development Department,

Bangalore.

Letter dated 2nd December 1931 from the Executive Member, Messrs. John Taylor & Sons' Committee, Oorgaum, to the Chief Inspector of Mines in Mysore.

----------:o:----------

I have the honour to refer to your letter No.807 dated the 20th ultimo on the subject of your previous communication dated 9th June forwarding Government's enquiry as to the possibility and desirability of some action being taken by His Highness' Government towards showing recognition of the conduct of men who undergo risk in rescue work ensuing from rockbursts and fires.

The question has been closely considered by Messrs. John Taylor & Sons' Committee in consultation with Messrs. John Taylor & Sons', London, who have also considered the matter on previous occasions.

Their view is that the existing practice of the Mining Companies of giving monetary rewards to all those who deserve them including individuals showing initiative and exhibiting outstanding ability on such occasions is the most prudent course to adopt in dealing with such cases. If distinction is made between individuals or gangs it might be the means of bringing about comparisons both invidious and unfair for it is extremely difficult to draw distinctions during the urgency of rescue work.

They therefore feel that whilst the motive which has prompted Government to make enquiry into the matter is greatly appreciated it would be unwise to depart from the past practice.

----------:o:----------

"Copy"

C E Bryan

Chief Inspector of Mines
in Mysore.
5/12/1931.

D.S.R.